Make plans now to join fellow Scout Chaplains, Scouters, and spouses in Irvine, California for the 43rd Biennial Conference of the National Catholic Committee on Scouting® April 24-27, 2014. This is the first time the NCCS has been able to bring its Biennial Conference to California in 30 years! The conference will be held at the Hilton John Wayne-Orange County Airport at a rate of $99 per night (before taxes). The Diocese of Orange CCS is very excited about working with the NCCS Conference Committee as the host committee.

Activities
The conference offers activities for novice through experienced Scouters. Attend your regional meeting to meet and share ideas with other Catholic Scouters in your region and the NCCS General Business Meeting to hear what the standing committees and executive committee are addressing. The Showcase (Ideas) Fair provides an opportunity for you to talk directly with NCCS standing and diocesan committees as they showcase their work. Six workshop sessions are scheduled where you can choose from 15 informative offerings. The conference offers seven meal functions (five included with registration) providing a venue for inspirational addresses and award presentations. Mass is offered each evening, concelebrated by the bishops and priests in attendance.

Committee Business
In addition to the activities listed, each Standing Committee, the Executive Committee and Board, and Advisory Board meets several times to complete their assigned duties. Catholic Scouters are invited to join the discussion at most Standing Committee meetings. Refer to the conference schedule to see when meetings are scheduled.

Diocese of Orange CCS Providing Optional Tours
The Diocese of Orange Catholic Committee on Scouting is arranging an optional Disney tour on Monday April 21, and to Christ Cathedral and the Irvine Ranch Outdoor Education Center on the Wednesday April 23. More information will be available during registration.

Registration
Registration will be on-line. Biennial Conference info and registration forms will not be mailed via USPS, EXCEPT to anyone who makes the request by calling the NCCS office at 972-580-2114.

See pages 7 & 8 for more Biennial Conference details.
The Bridge is an authorized publication of the National Catholic Committee on Scouting® (NCCS). It is published quarterly to provide news and information to members of the NCCS, diocesan Catholic committees, youth ministry personnel and Boy Scout councils.

NCCS Chairman
Edward P. Martin

NCCS Chaplain
Father Michael Hanifin

Chairman, Marketing and Public Relations
Gerard Scanlan

Advisor, Marketing and Public Relations
Father Roger LaChance

Editor
Mike Gannon

NCCS Webmaster
Roselito de los Reyes

To submit items for future editions of The Bridge please contact Mike Gannon at scouttrain@aol.com. Photos are acceptable and should be in a jpeg format. Please ensure all people in photos are identified and the subject matter is fully described.

**Chairman’s Corner by Edward P. Martin**

Gertrud H. Cebulis died October 27 at the age of 76. I attended her funeral on All Souls Day. I knew her as “Gertie”, a Catholic Scouter and mom. One thing about her was certain: she was passionate about helping Catholic Scouts learn more about their faith.

She befriended me as a young Scout leader at a district Roundtable. She convinced me to drive her to Ad Altare Dei meetings, unit formation meetings, and diocesan committee meetings. She didn’t drive herself, or so she said. Gertie would go wherever there was a need or wherever someone expressed an interest in the programs of Catholic Scouting. She worked with youth from upper class suburbs and inner city and ethnic communities. She knew that Scouting was where the Catholic faith could be practiced and where youth would be open to activities of spiritual formation.

Why do I tell you this about a person you don’t even know? Because we all need to be like Gertie. And maybe you are already a “Gertie”. If you are reading this, you have been called—or are being called—by God, to be a “Gertie” to the Catholic Scouts in your community.

It was her love for the rosary that encouraged me to teach my own Cub Scouts how to pray the rosary. Years later, this positive experience led me to support the development of NCCS’ rosary activity program and to use that program in the NCCS booth at this past summer’s BSA National Jamboree.

By responding to her baptismal call, Gertie’s gift of herself will live on in the hearts and souls of those Scouts and Scouters she touched. The NCCS theme for the BSA Jamboree and our upcoming 43rd Biennial Conference is “Live Bold. Live Catholic.” During this Christmas season and beyond, may the bold gifts of our Catholic faith in action encourage Scouts and Scouters to grow spiritually in their faith. Merry Christmas!

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**Recent Assignments**

We are pleased to announce the appointment of Chuck Lamb to the post of Religious Activities Chairman to succeed Julia Fogassy. Chuck can be reached at: chucklamb007@aol.com.

**Prayer Request**

Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of John Bertram "Bert" Johnson, a long-time member of the NCCS. He died at the age of 81 on Sunday, September 22 and is survived by his wife Eleanor. At the time of his death, he was serving as Chairman of the Catholic Committee on Scouting for the diocese of Orlando. Bert had also served on the NCCS Executive Board as a Region Chair and on the staff of Scouting in the Catholic Church conference at Philmont Training Center.

Your prayers are requested for Mike Gannon, NCCS Vice-Chair and editor of The Bridge. Mike is recovering from a stroke.

**Get the latest information** on NCCS on our website at nccs-bsa.org and follow us on Facebook at: facebook.com/nccs-bsa.

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**Due Dates**

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Notes from the National Chaplain
By Father Michael P. Hanifin

Recently, the National Chaplains’ Team and National Chairmen’s Team returned from Baltimore, Maryland where the National Catholic Committee on Scouting® along with Episcopal Liaison, Bishop Robert “Bob” Guglielmone, hosted approximately 120 bishops at the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Annual Meeting. At the breakfast, the Immediate Past National Chaplain (Father Stephen Salvador), the Associate National Chaplain (Father Kevin Smith), and I shared information with the bishops about Catholic Scouting, the programs of the NCCS, World-Wide Catholic Scouting as well as the recent BSA National Jamboree held at Beckley, West Virginia. The NCCS presented Archbishop Carlo Maria Viganò, Papal Nuncio, the National Chaplain Stole for being the Celebrant at the Jamboree Sunday Mass. We had hoped to present Bishop Michael Bransfield of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston with a stole, but unfortunately he was unable to attend.

At the USCCB Bishops Breakfast, the NCCS distributed the long awaited “Frequently Asked Questions” regarding the BSA Membership Policy [available on the NCCS website]. The bishops seemed very interested in the contents of the FAQ. Bishop Bob Guglielmone, Bishop Gerald Gettelfinger, and Bishop James Tamayo made themselves available to answer any questions they may have had on a one-to-one basis during the Episcopal Conference week.

At the USCCB Conference, Ed Martin, NCCS National Chairman, and I had the opportunity to speak with Mark Berchem and David Rinaldi from the National Evangelistic Team (NET) Ministries. NET Ministries is a Catholic Youth Ministry organization utilizing young adults to give retreats to Middle School and High School age youth. They are interested in collaborating with the NCCS on a possible future Scout/Venture Leadership Experience at the Summit Bechtel Family Scout Reserve. They told us that their team members, who are Eagle Scouts and have an extensive Scouting background, are far ahead in maturity and poise than the other young adults they encounter.

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Emmett J. Doerr Memorial Distinguished Scout Scholarship

The National Catholic Committee on Scouting® (NCCS) has established the Emmett J. Doerr Memorial Distinguished Scout Scholarship to be awarded annually to five outstanding Catholic high school seniors who are Scouts in a BSA program and continuing their education in college. These scholarships honor Mr. Doerr, who was a dedicated Catholic Scout and a very active member of the NCCS. He was the first recipient of the Brother Barnabas Founders Award and received the Silver Antelope, Silver Beaver, and Saint George medals for his service to the Boy Scouts. The Doerr family and the NCCS are continuing his legacy by offering this scholarship in his name to five distinguished Catholic Scouts.

Eligibility Requirements:
- Must be a practicing Catholic
- Be a full-time high school senior
- Be a registered young man or woman actively involved in a Scout Troop, Varsity Scout Team, Venturing Crew, or Sea Scout Ship
- Must have earned the Ad Altare Dei or Pope Pius XII Religious Award
- Earned the Eagle Scout, Silver Award or Quartermaster Award
- Provided service to church, community, school and Scouts

For applications or more information:
- Download an application at: http://www.nccs-bsa.org/national/EJDoerrScholarship.php
- Email: nccs@scouting.org
- Call: NCCS - Program Assistant (972) 580-2114
- Deadline is March 1, 2014

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More Information On-line
Check our website (nccs-bsa.org) and Facebook page for these posted and soon-to-be posted articles:
- Scouting in the Catholic Church Conference August 3-9, 2014 at Philmont Training Center
- A report on the National Youth Protection Symposium
- NCCS FAQs on BSA Youth Membership Policy
- NCCS participation in the October BSA National Executive Board and Committee meetings
- Photos from the USCCB meeting
- Information on the St. George Trek, 7/8-23/2015
Miter Society Award Established

The Miter Society is a newly established NCCS recognition of financial support for the St. George Trek. The Miter Society is so named to honor our current and former Bishop Liaisons. The history of our Bishops’ involvement in our NCCS programs and operations has been distinguished to say the least. Through their own loyalty, dedication and personal hard work, our Bishop Liaisons have helped forge a stronger relationship among the membership of the NCCS, while showing their support and encouragement with and among the priests of the NCCS.

The St. George Trek is NCCS’s premier youth leadership program, normally held every two years at Philmont Scout Ranch. We have had a number of bishops actually hike with the crews on their leadership program wrapped around a Philmont Trek experience. Youth are divided into crews usually with a priest and seminarian as crew advisors. There has usually been a female crew (Venturers) led by women religious! Yes, nuns in hiking boots!

This Miter Society recognition consists of a black and gold polished medal suspended from a dark green ribbon. Green is the color proper to a bishop. Engraved on the medal is an image of the Philmont Arrowhead, an easily recognizable image of Philmont, with the bishop’s miter superimposed. Each medal is consecutively numbered, but without limit.

Each award represents a generous contribution of a minimum $1,000. If you’d like to make a contribution in your name, or to honor someone else, please see our NCCS web site for detailed information on making your gift. Every dollar goes to support the St. George Trek.

NCCS Annual Appeal

This year's Annual Appeal has begun. Funds from this campaign support the work of the National Catholic Committee on Scouting® in promoting Scouting as a Catholic youth ministry. A letter will be arriving soon seeking your participation.

This year, the NCCS is offering a unique incentive to encourage participation. Donors have the opportunity to receive a shirt embroidered with the logo of the 2014 Biennial Conference. There is a minimum donation of $250.00 for NCCS members and $500.00 for executive committee members to receive a shirt at the conference.

This a great way to recognize and be recognized as a key contributor to the NCCS. The Finance Committee thanks you for your past support of the NCCS and looks forward to your participation in this year's campaign.

It's Time to Renew Your Membership with NCCS

The new membership year begins in January 2014. All those who wish to be identified as members of the National Catholic Committee on Scouting® are encouraged to renew or register. A membership form can be accessed online at: http://www.nccs-bsa.org/JoinNCCS.php.

There are 3 levels of membership:

- **Members** - identified by a position on the NCCS Executive Board, Advisory Board, or diocesan chairs or chaplains
- **Associate Members** - not a member, but active on diocesan or NCCS committees
- **Supporter** - neither member nor associate member, but one who wishes to be kept informed of NCCS events and activity.

Any registered Scouter can join the National Catholic Committee on Scouting® by filling out the NCCS membership application. Your membership fees support the efforts of the National Catholic Committee on Scouting® to provide faith-based programs including religious emblems; activity patches; adult, unit, and diocesan committee recognition awards; and national training conferences.

In addition to **The Bridge**, the NCCS quarterly newsletter, all membership levels will receive invitations to the annual meeting, to participate on standing committees, and Scouting in the Catholic Church conference at Philmont Training Center. The cost is $35.00 per year or $350.00 for a Lifetime membership for as long as you are registered with BSA.
100 Years of Catholic Scouting
ICCS Keep the Lamp Burning Celebration
by Scott Harvey

The months since the National Jamboree have seemed to fly by. There is much happening around the world by Catholic scouts and associations. The Keep the Lamp Burning (KLB) celebration will continue to educate Scouts and Scouters around the globe on what it means to be a Catholic in the World Scout Movement.

The Holy Father Pope Francis has shared that he appreciates the devoted sentiments that we have shared about Catholic Scouting and sends his prayerful good wishes for the efforts to promote Catholic scouting through the Keep the Lamp Burning celebration.

The upcoming activities of the KLB program include the Peace Light of Bethlehem that has been part of International Scouting for many years. A flame is brought to Austria and lights are lit and carried back to countries around the world. This light then is shared during the Advent season by lighting candles in communities in these countries. If your Scouting community participates, please consider making this a Christmas tradition in your diocesan programming.

The next event for the KLB program will be held in equatorial Africa and will be the official KLB event of the Africa Region of ICCS. The dates for the “Blessed are the Peacemakers” event are from 21 February to 25 February, 2014. The event will include a visit to the Shrine of Our Lady Queen of Peace in Kiwamirembe, presentations by Catholic scouts from Uganda, meetings for Catholic scout chaplains and a camping experience on the shores of Lake Victoria. The WOSM Messengers of Peace (MoP) program will be introduced to the KLB celebration during this event. As part of the continuing KLB celebration MoP will become a recommended program for Catholic scouts around the world to consider participating in. There will be additional optional programs that include a visit to Nyeri, Kenya and the grave of Lord Baden Powell and a visit to one of the many wildlife sanctuaries in east Africa.

There also some exciting news for the Catholic Scouts in Italy. Pope Francis will be visiting the equivalent of their national jamboree in August in Pisa. He will celebrate the Holy Mass with the Scouts during this visit.

The Catholic Committee on Scouting in Japan has developed the plans for the KLB celebration leading up to the conclusion the program at the World Jamboree in 2015 and will be publishing articles in the Japan Scout Magazine until the Jamboree.

On a much more somber note, I ask that all of you keep the Scouts and all people who are affected by war and natural disasters in your prayers. As Scouts, we need to always be prepared and I know many of the Scouts I have met in places like Syria, and now the devastation in the Philippines, are helping their fellow citizens using the skills they have learned as Scouts.

NCCS Keep The Lamp Burning Program

Blessed are the Merciful is a program for Scouts in the United States to help give a greater awareness of the Keep the Lamp Burning celebration and the history of Scouting in the Catholic Church worldwide over the past 100 years. In keeping with the themes of the next three World Youth Day celebrations that will recognize the beatitudes taught by Christ, the theme is about mercy. On 27 April, 2014 Divine Mercy Sunday, Pope John Paul II will be canonized. We will take the great occasion to begin the Blessed are the Merciful program.

The Blessed are the Merciful program will encourage Catholic Scouts to explore the richness of the Catholic faith experienced throughout the world. The NCCS International Awareness Award provides a meaningful introduction to the varied Catholic Scout organizations in the international community. The Keep the Lamp Burning celebration helps Scouts from around the world to learn about how Scouting came to be encouraged by the Catholic Church and approved by the Vatican. One of the first Catholic priests to recognize the value of Scouting for youth was Venerable Father Jacques Sevin of France in 1913 [more on Fr. Sevin and Catholic Scouting at: http://www.jesuit.org.uk/latest/070727.htm].

Scouts are also encouraged to learn about Catholic Scouting in the United States and in their own diocese. Every Scout knows the slogan “Do a Good Turn Daily” and promises to “help other people at all times.” As Catholics, we are asked by Christ to strive for the Divine mercy of God in this life and at our final judgment. The corporal and spiritual works of mercy are “Good Deeds” and ways to be helpful to other people at all times. By doing this, the Light of Christ remains burning brightly in the center of all scout programs.

Scouts and leaders will be encouraged to participate in the World Organization of Scouting Messengers of Peace program when they perform organized “Acts of Mercy”. When a Scout participates in the Messengers of Peace program, there is a special patch earned that is placed around the World Crest on their uniform. When a scout performs an act of mercy good deed, they will be able to obtain the “Blessed are the Merciful” Keep the Lamp Burning patch. More information on the Messengers of Peace program at: http://scout.org/node/76.
When the NCCS gathers for its 25th biennial meeting in Houston, Tex., next March (1978), it will be the 50th anniversary of the adoption of the plan of cooperation between the Catholic Church and the Boy Scouts of America. As we start to prepare for this conference, perhaps we should step back for a minute and take a look at our past.

The Catholic Church in America became interested in the educational aspects of Scouting early in the movement, and as far as we can ascertain, two of the earliest troops chartered by Catholic churches were one in St. Mark’s Church, Archdiocese of St. Paul-Minneapolis, in September of 1910 and another in St. Patrick’s Cathedral, Archdiocese of New York, in 1912.

As early as 1912, Brother Barnabas, FSC, was named director of the Catholic Bureau of the Boy Scouts of America, working to expand Scouting in other regions of the nation. In 1922, the Knights of Columbus established a special Boys’ Life Bureau, and in April 1923 Brother Barnabas was appointed the bureau’s first executive secretary. In this spot Brother Barnabas visited many of the nation’s bishops, advising them of the virtues of the Scouting program.

Catholic interest in Scouting continued to increase among clergy and laity alike, and in 1934 under the leadership of the Most Rev. Francis C. Kelley, bishop of Oklahoma City, the American hierarchy approved a “plan of cooperation” whereby Scouting recognized the church’s interests in the spiritual welfare of Catholic youth, and the Scouting program was recognized as an approved youth program in the church.

Under the plan of cooperation the bishops retained the responsibility for the spiritual welfare of Catholic Scouts, and the Boy Scouts of America placed its programs and facilities at the disposal of its Catholic partners.

Under this plan, the National Catholic Committee on Scouting, composed of clergymen and laymen, was organized to administer the new program. The program spread rapidly in Catholic dioceses after the adoption of the plan, and the annual Report to Congress, rendered by the BSA, reported in 1936 that more than 50 dioceses had appointed Catholic chaplains.

Bishop Kelley was named the first chairman of the bishops’ committee formed to steer the new program. Other officers were the Most Rev. Bernard J. Sheil, vice-chairman; the Rev. Edward Roberts Moore, national director; Victor F. Ridder, secretary treasurer; and William J. Campbell, chairman, laymen’s committee.

Progress continued in 1935, and at the end of that year the Catholic committee reported 2,213 troops organized under Catholic auspices, 247 of them by the Knights of Columbus. The announcement was made by Bishop Kelley at a meeting of the bishops’ committee in Washington, D.C. on November 14, 1935.

The committee also discussed the development of an appropriate emblem for altar boy service to be awarded by the bishops’ committee. William J. Campbell reported the
organization of lay committees in some dioceses. The Boy Scouts of America employed Kenneth Cook to develop the Scouting program at the diocesan level, and Cook became the first executive secretary of NCCS.

The bishops’ committee discussion of an altar boy award bore fruit 4 years later, with the introduction of Scouting’s first religious emblem—the Ad Altare Dei.

This idea grew out of an idea originated by Msgr. James E. Dolan, of the Diocese of Los Angeles-Monterey. Msgr. Dolan awarded a cross to First Class Scouts who had served satisfactorily as altar boys during their tenure as Scouts. The first such award was made to Scout Edward Thurin on February 7, 1926.

The Scout chaplains’ conference developed a set of regulations for the AAD emblem which was approved by the bishops’ committee, and on December 14, 1939, the executive board of the BSA approved the wearing of the AAD emblem on the Scout uniform.

The first emblems were presented on a national basis in 1941, and during the first 18 months after its approval, nearly 3,000 emblems were awarded. On February 8, 1959, the 100,000th AAD cross was presented to Scout Charles Borgquist of Los Angeles.

Units under Catholic auspices were also increasing at a fast pace. By June 30, 1941, there were 4,385 units under Catholic auspices involving more than 4,000 parishes. Bishop Kelley continued as episcopal moderator of the NCCS until 1941, when he was succeeded by the Most Rev. Richard O. Gerow, Bishop of Natchez.

Msgr. Roberts Moore continued as national director of Scouting under Catholic auspices until 1947, when he was succeeded by the Rev. Robert Brown of the Archdiocese of New York. Father Brown served 2 years as director, and in 1949 was succeeded by Msgr. George M. Dowd of the Archdiocese of Boston.

During Bishop Gerow’s term as episcopal moderator, Scouting under Catholic auspices enjoyed continuing growth. At the end of his term in 1961, the number of Scout units under Catholic auspices had grown to more than 12,000 and the number of Catholic men and boys in the BSA was in excess of 600,000.

During his chairmanship of the movement, Scouting was adopted by every diocese in the United States and its possessions. In 1952, at the 12th biennial meeting of the chaplains’ and laymen’s committees, it was proposed a recognition be adopted for adult Scouters active in the program. In 1952, A. A. Kirk was named director of Catholic Services in the Relationships Division of the BSA, and thus succeeded Kenneth Cook as executive secretary of the National Catholic Committee on Scouting. In 1954, the St. George emblem was approved for adults. At the same time, the laymen’s committee was expanded to include 10 outstanding laymen from six [BSA] regions.

Do you know when the Parvuli Dei emblems were first presented? How many Explorers qualified for the Pope Pius XII emblem in the first year that it was presented?

In future issues we will continue to tell you of the growth and development of the NCCS.

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### 2014 Biennial Meeting Workshops

If you are looking for new ideas to keep your programs fresh and exciting for your diocesan committees, then we have the answer for you. This year, NCCS standing committees will be presenting 15 different workshops for you. Many have never been done before. There is something for everyone. You will have the opportunity to attend 6 workshops. All presentation materials will be burned to CD’s so if you need to choose between two workshops, you will have all of the information covered for all 15. This will make it easy for you to take the information back with you to share with your diocesan committees.

For NCCS veterans, we have: *Promoting Religious Emblems of All Faiths* by Mark Hazlewood, CEO of P.R.A.Y., *Managing Websites, Integrating the Social Web, Religious Emblems Counselor Training Made Easy, Footsteps of American Saints and the Marian Activity Series, International Catholic Scouting-What’s it All About*, panel discussion with National Chair, National Chaplain, and NCCS Bishop Liaison, and panel discussion on diocesan committees that serve Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and American Heritage Girls.

Rounding out the workshops will be: “Scouting in the Catholic Church” Conference at Philmont Training Center, Fast Start for Diocesan Chairs and Chaplains, Emblems! What’s Up?, 10 Commandment Hike, Bike, or Bus, Vocations .... The Call is for All!, The Saint George Trek 2015: Priesthood and Religious Life on the Trail, and Jump-Start Religious Activities.
Biennial Details

The NCCS Conference and Meeting Committee is continuing to finalize details for the Biennial Conference. Here are some of the details that have been finalized so you can start your plans to attend.

Planning your Travel & Stay

Region 11 Convocation
Region 11 is offering a convocation (training sessions) on Sunday, April 27. All Catholic Scouters are invited to participate. Registration and fees will be separate from and additional to the Biennial Conference Registration.

Our Conference Hotel
Our group room rate at the Hilton Irvine-Orange County Airport is $99. The hotel (across the street from the airport) offers registered conference participants who are also registered guests at the conference hotel complimentary airport shuttle service. (Our rate is good 3 nights prior/after the official conference dates, based on availability).

Regional Chairs and Chaplains
Regional Chairman or Chaplain will be conducting their region meetings on Friday morning at 8:00 a.m., and will meet with the Vice Chair for Regions beginning at 9:00 a.m.

General Membership & Business Meeting
The general membership & business meeting is 9:15-11:45 a.m. on Saturday, April 26.

Workshops
The workshops are on Saturday, April 26, between 1:45 and 4:40 p.m.

Advisory Board
The Advisory Board meetings are Friday morning, April 25 at 9:00 a.m., and 1:30 p.m. on Saturday afternoon.

Executive Board
The Executive Board meeting is scheduled from 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon on Sunday, April 27.

Air Transportation

United Airlines: Discounts of 2% to 10% off published fares to/from SNA (John Wayne-Orange County Airport). Save an additional 3% by booking your own reservations at www.united.com. Choose your flight times, and access discounts using ZRB6841869 in the Offer Code box. Or call your travel professional or United Meetings at 800-426-1122 for reservations. Refer to Z Code ZRB6 and Agreement Code: 841869 (A $25 ticket fee will apply to each ticket purchased over the phone).

American Airlines: 5% discount on AA and American Eagle flights to/from either SNA (John Wayne-Orange County Airport) or LAX (Los Angeles). After selecting your flights at www.aa.com, enter 7844BP in the “promotion code” box at the bottom of the next page. You may also book via your travel agency or by calling American Airlines at 1-800-433-1790 to book via the telephone. (A ticketing fee will apply for all tickets issued via telephone). Other airlines serving the John Wayne-Orange County Airport include: AirTran Airways, Alaska Airlines, Delta Airlines, Frontier Airlines, Interjet, Southwest Airlines, US Airways and WestJet.

Dining
When checking-in, each Hilton guest who is an NCCS full-conference or spouse/guest paid registrant will receive a coupon for $3.00 off a full buffet breakfast at the hotel’s restaurant, the Aura Bar & Grill, which will be good any morning of your stay.

For meals other than conference meal functions purchased with your conference registration, the hotel’s restaurant, the Aura Bar & Grill, is open for breakfast, lunch, and dinner, 7 days a week. Restaurant hours are: Monday – Friday: 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.; Saturday & Sunday, 6:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. Bar hours are: 11:00 a.m. – Midnight, 7 days a week. If you run out of coffee in your guest room, coffee is available for purchase in “go cups” (small $2; large $3) at the “lobby-end” of the bar, daily during restaurant operating hours.

There are a host of off-property restaurants and grocery stores within a 5 minutes walking or driving radius.